IV. REMARKS

Status of the Claims

Claims 12, 14, 16, 18, 20, and 21 are amended and claim 13 is cancelled. Claims 12, and 14-21 are presented for further consideration.

Summary of the Office Action

Claims 12-21 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(b) on the basis of the cited reference Laurila et al, International Publication Number WO 00/42600. Claims 12 and 20-21 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) based on the artical Iso-Sipila, et al in view of the article Viikki, et al.

Applicant submits that the objections to the specification and the claim informalities are remedied by the above amendments.

Applicant submits that, in view of the remarks in the prior filed Request for Reconsideration, the Applicant is entitled to the claim of priority contained in this application. Accordingly the cited reference Laurila, being the parent application to the subject application is not a proper prior art reference in this application. In view of this the rejection based on anticipation is not supported. As an alternative and to insure the priority of this application, Applicant has submitted with this response a petition of revival of the parent application.

In response to the rejection based on obviousness, Applicant submits that the cited references either alone or in combination do not teach a voice recognition system in which an activity time limit (SB_ACTIVE_TH) and an activity quantity (SB_MIN_TH) are determined, wherein a pause detection decision is made if the

quantity of sub-band specific detections is greater than or equal to the activity quantity (SB_MIN_TH) and the activity time limit (SB_ACTIVE_TH) has not been reached on the other sub-bands in the calculation of the length of the pause in the sub-band as described in claims 12 and 20 as amended.

Therefore, in view of the amendments to the claims and the resolution of the issue of the prior claim, all of the rejections stated in the office action are fully satisfied.

The amendment to claim 14 is supported in the specification at page 7, line 19. The amendment to claim 16 is supported in the specification at page 6, line 26 to page 7, line 2 and at page 8, lines 1-5.

For all of the above reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims now present in the application are clearly novel and patentable over the prior art of record, and are in proper form for allowance. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and allowance is respectfully requested. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicants' attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

A check in the amount of \$1,030 is enclosed for a three-month extension of time fee. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment for any fees associated with this communication or credit any over payment to Deposit Account No. 16-1350.



Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date indicated below as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date: 15 March 2004

Signature: